

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

FBB751

PAGE 01

PANAMA 06410

14 JUL 81 RECEIVED
TELETYPE UNIT

no *[Handwritten signature]*

ACTION: ARA-16

14 JUL 81 21 11z

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 INR-10 SS-050 CIAE-00 ICA-11

H-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00 HILL-03 ONS SECS-06 CA-01

FBIE-00 /069 W.

Exec. AD-Adm.	_____
Exec. AD-Inv.	_____
Exec. AD-LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Serv.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Inspection	_____
JUSE	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Rec. Mgnt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Off. of Cong. & Public Affs.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

-----36657 142051Z /70

R 141420Z JUL 81

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

FBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5566

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

INFO PANCANAL COMM.

DATE 4/21/88 BY 965R00/rdm

USCINCSO

Rymur

DEPTREAS WASHDC

[Handwritten shapes and scribbles]

b6 Per FBI
b7C

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PANAMA 06410

DEPT PASS JUSTICE FOR

[Redacted box]

CRIMINAL DIVISION

E.O. 12065: N/A

DE-85

89-4286-2654

TAGS: EGEN, PM

14-5

JUL 16 1981

SUBJECT: STATUS OF THE "PEOPLES" TEMPLE CASE: WRAP-UP

55 AUG 25 1981

6442

215.
THE ONLY ACTION PENDING IN THIS CASE IS
THAT OF TRANSFERRING THE CONTENTS OF A SAFETY DEPOSIT
BOX IN A LOCAL BANK WHICH HAS ALREADY BEEN OPENED
AND INVENTORIED TO THE CURATOR OF THE PEOPLES' TEMPLE
IN CALIFORNIA. THE BOX CONTAINS A LARGE NUMBER OF
DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE PEOPLES' TEMPLE AND U.S.DOLS.
50,000 IN CASH. IT WAS IN THE NAME OF CAROLYN

LEITLIN, ONE OF THE VICTIMS AT JONESTOWN. THE LEGAT
PANAMANIAN SUPREME COURT HAS RULED THAT THE CONTENTS
MUST BE TURNED OVER TO THE CURATOR, AND THIS WILL BE
DONE SOON. THERE IS ANOTHER BOX IN THE NAME OF ONE
OF THE SURVIVORS, BUT ATTORNEY EDUARDO FERRER BELIEVES
THAT THERE IS NOTHING IN THIS BOX, AND THAT IT HAS
NOT BEEN USED IN SEVERAL YEARS.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

2

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02

PANAMA 06410 141558Z

WM IT MAY BE USEFUL TO SUMMARIZE THE OUTCOME OF EFFORTS TO OBTAIN POSSESSION, ON BEHALF OF THE CURATOR OF THE PEOPLES' TEMPLE, OF THE FUNDS DEPOSITED IN LOCAL BANKS. ORIGINALLY, ALL OF THE FUNDS WERE IN THE NAME OF A CORPORATION, THE RELIGIOUS ASSOCIATION OF SAN PEDRO. THE CHARTER OF THIS CORPORATION STATED THAT THE FUNDS COULD NOT BE TRANSFERRED TO A PRIVATE PERSON'S ACCOUNT. THIS WAS DONE, HOWEVER, SHORTLY BEFORE THE TRAGEDY IN JONESTOWN. ALL OF THE INDIVIDUALS IN WHOSE ACCOUNTS THE FUNDS WERE TRANSFERRED DIED AT JONESTOWN, AND THERE WAS A POSSIBILITY THAT THEIR HEIRS MIGHT TRY TO WITHDRAW THE MONEY. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF PANAMA ARGUED AT THE BEHEST OF OUR LAWYER THAT A CRIME HAD BEEN COMMITTED IN PANAMA, E.G., THE ILLEGAL TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO PRIVATE ACCOUNTS, AND IN 1979 HE ORDERED THE FUNDS RETURNED TO THE PEOPLES' TEMPLE ACCOUNT. THE LAWYERS FOR THE BANK ASSERTED THAT THE BANK COULD NOT COMPLY BECAUSE THE ATTORNEY GENERAL DID NOT HAVE THE POWER TO ISSUE SUCH AN ORDER. THE CASE WAS REFERRED TO THE SUPREME COURT OF PANAMA, WHICH EVENTUALLY RULED THAT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL DID IN FACT HAVE THIS POWER AND THAT THE BANK HAD TO COMPLY. THE BANK INVOLVED, THE UNION BANK OF SWITZERLAND, EVENTUALLY RELEASED SOME U.S.DOLS. 5 MILLION, WHICH WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE CURATOR OF THE PEOPLES' TEMPLE

CALIFORNIA IN MARCH 1980.

3. BECAUSE RECORDS IN THE OPENED SAFETY DEPOSIT
BOX, WHICH HAD BEEN PHOTOGRAPHED, CONTAINED DETAILS
OF FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS WITH OTHER BANKS, IT WAS
POSSIBLE TO RECOVER OTHER FUNDS FROM THE SWISS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 PANAMA 06410 141558Z

BANK CORP IN PANAMA, WHICH VOLUNTARILY GAVE UP
SOME U.S.DOLS. 2 MILLION AFTER BEING QUESTIONED
DIRECTLY ABOUT SPECIFIC DEPOSITS. MOSS

4